



GARY HIGGINS
OPPOSITION LEADER

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For immediate circulation

Time to prosper

In relation to today's reported GST distribution for the Northern Territory, please see below, to be attributed to the Leader of the Opposition, Gary Higgins.

To be clear, the Opposition does not support the Northern Territory losing any money from GST revenue.

It is time for the Territory Labor government to send a clear and positive message to the private sector at a time when the economy and population are both in decline, it is time to allow well-regulated on shore shale gas development.

The Opposition wants the Territory to prosper and the ability to realise this is in the hands of the Labor government.

Today's announcement and subsequent decrease of funding (reported to be \$136 million) reinforces the importance of the introduction of a well-regulated on shore shale gas industry and the opportunity it will provide the Territory.

The Labor government must now do what it can to unlock the Territory's potential, starting with lifting the moratorium and paving the way for a well-regulated on shore shale gas industry.

The Opposition's submission and subsequent presentation to the Productivity Commission sought to see no change to the distribution system of HFE for Territorians.

ENDS

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